

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 10348 290731Z

21

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 PM-01 PRS-01 SP-02 NSC-05

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 /035 W

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R 290639Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5904

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 10348

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, TH, ASEAN, MY

SUBJECT: 7/28 MEETING WITH MARCOS: KUKRIT VISIT, ASEAN SUMMIT,  
SABAH

REF: MANILA 10047

1. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH MARCOS JULY 28, I ASKED WHETHER KUKRIT VISIT HAD SURFACED ANY SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS. MARCOS SAID HE HAD FOUND KUKRIT VERY SOUND, ESPECIALLY IN ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS. HOWEVER, HE HAD IMPRESSION THAT KUKRIT WAS VERY UNCERTAIN OF HIS COMESTIC POLITICAL SUPPORT AND THEREFORE PREFERRED MOVE VERY CAUTIOUSLY.

2.MARCOS SAID KUKRIT'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS ISSUE OF U.S. FORCES AT THAI BASES WAS COUCHED ALMOST ENTIRELY IN TERMS STUDENT INSISTENCE THAT U.S. FORCES GO. KUKRIT SAID HE FELT U.S. GOVT UNDERSTOOD THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND DID NOT RPT NOT EXPECT ANY CONFRONTATION WITH U.S. OVER THIS SUBJECT.

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PAGE 02 MANILA 10348 290731Z

3. ON SECURITY ROLE FOR ASEAN, MARCOS EXPRESSED SOME

SKEPTICISM. HE ACCEPTED CONCEPT IN PRINCIPLE, BUT FELT THERE WAS INADEQUATE MILITARY STRENGTH INHERENT IN THE ASEAN COUNTRIES TO MAKE IT PRACTICAL. HE FELT CURRENT CONCENTRATION SHOULD BE ON "STABILITY," WHICH HE DEFINED IN TERMS OF ELIMINATING CAUSES OF FRICTION AMONG ASEAN STATES.

4. HE THEN EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION THAT RAZAK AZAND EVEN GHAZALI" SEEMED AT LAST PREPARED TO MOVE AGAINST MUSTAPHA. HE CLAIMED MUSTAPHA HAD OVEREXTENDED HIMSELF AND WAS SHORT OF CASH, THEREFORE VULNERABLE. HE SAID SEVERAL VISITORS FROM SABAH TO MANILA HAD ATTEMPTED TO INTEREST GOP IN ANTI-MUSTAPHA MOVES, BUT MARCOS HAD SHIED AWAY, FEARING POSSIBLE PROVOCATIVE ENTRAPMENT. HE SEEMED TO COUND THE DEFEAT OF MUSTAPHA AS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION.

5. ALL THESE FACTORS, HE SAID, MADE AN ASEAN SUMMIT AN EARLY NECESSITY. HE HOPED IT COULD BE HELD AS EARLY AS SEPTEMBER AND HE THOUGHT THE INDONESIANS AND THE THAI AGREED. HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM. SULLIVAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COLLECTIVE SECURITY, MILITARY BASE CLOSINGS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, SABAH  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MANILA10348  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750260-1096  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 81  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 75 MANILA 10047  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** 7/28 MEETING WITH MARCOS: KUKRIT VISIT, ASEAN SUMMIT, SABAH  
**TAGS:** PFOR, RP, TH, MY, US, ASEAN, (MARCOS, FERDINAND), (KHUKRIT PRAMOT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006